

THE BLOOMFIELD RECORD.

SCOTCH HUMOR.
It Crops Out Occasionally Among Elders
of the Kirk.

The elder of the kirk, like most of us, can blunder occasionally. The pastor of a small village on the borders had gone for a few days to visit some relatives, when an old lady was suddenly struck down and not expected to live more than a few hours. Her kirk was hastily summoned at ten o'clock; but, having been accepted in order to satisfy the vanity of his wife, he did not feel able to face the trying ordeal. His wife entreated him to do his duty, and whispering a few lines of scripture into his ears sent him off on his errand.

An hour later his wife beheld him stepping homeward as brisk as a March hare. She inquired what could have caused it. "One of the deacons, din't?" was the reply. "She was dead when I got there."

A short time ago, when disestablishment was in everybody's mouth, an old lady created quite a sensation in a church not far from Antwerp. Having come from home a considerable distance, she was unable to get into the election of elders had taken place. She attended services the following Sunday, when the minister, commenting on the result, remarked that in David Richardson the church had a new pillar of strength, to which she replied, "I am a pillar of the kirk's sumptuous pillar!" Now wonder the old kirk's sumptuous pillar!

David, who had the misfortune to have a wooden leg and a hump back, quietly rose up and answered: "Wee hie ye gowk! Griffel's a (mountain) in the neighborhood."

On one occasion the minister met

Donald coming from Dumfries Road fair in rather a muddled state. "David! David! Do you see your double?"

"Eh, guidakins, minister!" exclaimed the elder. "Guidakins, are ye foron?"

A few weeks ago, a teacher on one occasion, did not put in an appearance, and the elder, apologizing for his absence, who gave it out that his reverence who also had in the roommotic" (for so he pronounced the word rheumatism) "and couldn't get out."

On hearing such startling intelligence, an old lady who happened to be present shrieked out: "Eh, that auld hizzay the oot! Has she locked poor man in the ictie because he kin?" —SCOTTISH AMERICAN.

SARDINE FISHING.

The Process From the Time of the Catch to the Cannery and Canning.

Towards the end of April the sardine fisherman along the coast of Britanny began to watch for the bubbling of the sardines on the surface of the sea. For they know that vast shoals of the little fish are on their way from the coast of Africa up through the Bay of Biscay. And that they must be caught, if at all, as soon as possible. When any one sees the water agitated, word spreads rapidly and the boats put out from the shore and race to the shoal.

When the net is extended, the water is broken by the thrashing balls of "rope" into it. As the bait dissolves and sinks the sardines rise and remain long after to nibble it, and their doom is sealed. For this reason "rope" is a most important part of the sardine fishing equipment. It is made of twine of macaroni and codfish twisted with salt, and is rather expensive, costing from 35 shillings to 70 shillings a barrel.

Within the curing factories or canneries there is nothing but bustle and creaks, for there is no time to waste. All night long the work is carried on by the light of blazing oil wicks. The sardines are read out on benches or tables, where salt is dusted over them. Then the women go along and strip off the heads and tails, and the bones, cutting from 35 shillings to 70 shillings a barrel.

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The little fat boxes so well known to commerce are taken one by one and filled from the glistening pile of fish, after which pure olive oil from the provinces of Bari, in Italy, is poured over them. The work, however, knows that such can has not been properly soldered, and the less is charged up to the man who did the work. A good workman will not lose more than two or three boxes in 100. —New York Recorder.

Work of the Heart.

One of the most remarkable things about the heart is the amount of work it does. Consider, for instance, the power of blood to defend known quantity of blood against a known "head"; it is easy to show that in 24 hours a man's heart does about 124 foot tons of work. "In other words," says a competitor, "the whole body is a pump, and by the time in which we were gathered into one large stroke, such a power world lift 124 tons one foot from the ground." A similar calculation has been made respecting the amount of work expended by the muscles involved in breathing. In 24 hours these muscles do about 21 foot tons of work."

A Mob.

A mob is usually a creature of very mysterious existence, particularly in a large city. Where it comes from or whether it is good or bad cannot tell. As a rule, it is composed of small demagogues, it is as difficult to account for its various sources as the sea itself, nor does the parallel stop here, for the ocean is not more fickle and uncertain, more terrible when aroused, more unmerciful or more cruel.—Dickens.

Lights on a Dark Subject.

Rivers—Supposing it be true that Luther did throw an ink bottle at satan, why do you think he did it?

Banks—I presume he intended to see if he could make his banker thicker than he was painted.—Chicago Tribune.

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